

# The Oral Microflora in Health and Disease

Opportunities for collaboration

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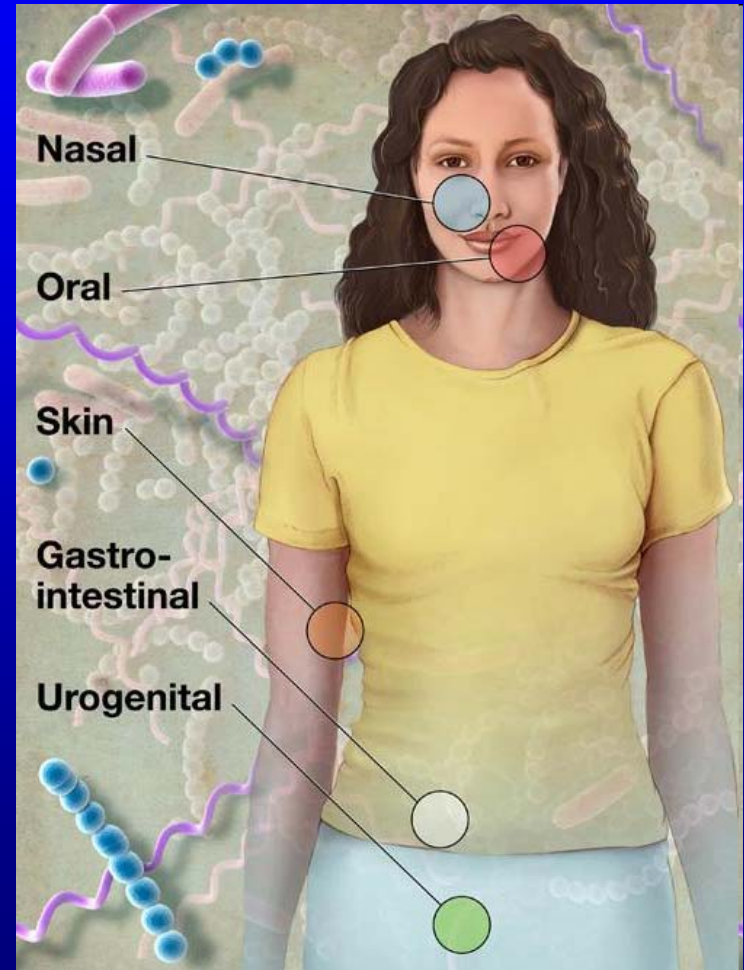
Wood 407 tkitten@vcu.edu x6-7010

# Outline

- Brief introduction to oral microflora
- Some of my work resulting from an SOD/SON collaboration
- Personal examples of other previous SOD/SON collaborations
- Examples of potential future collaborations

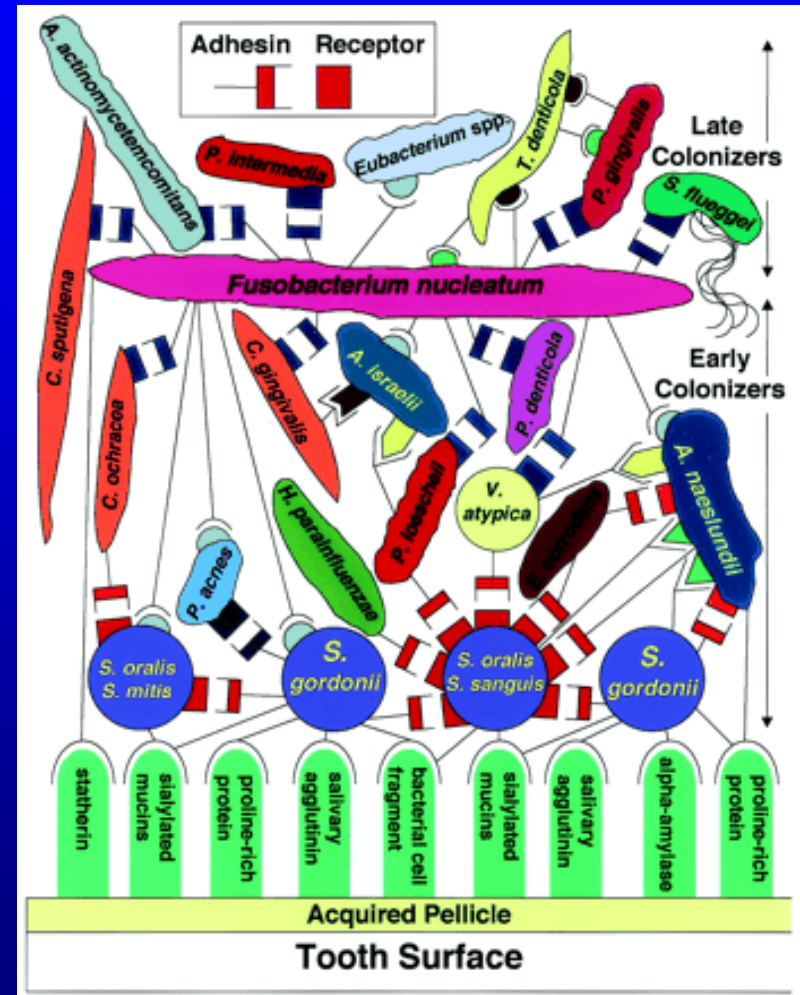
# Human Microflora

- Based on cell counts, we are 10 parts bacteria and 1 part human
- Based on gene content, we are 150 parts bacteria, and 1 part human

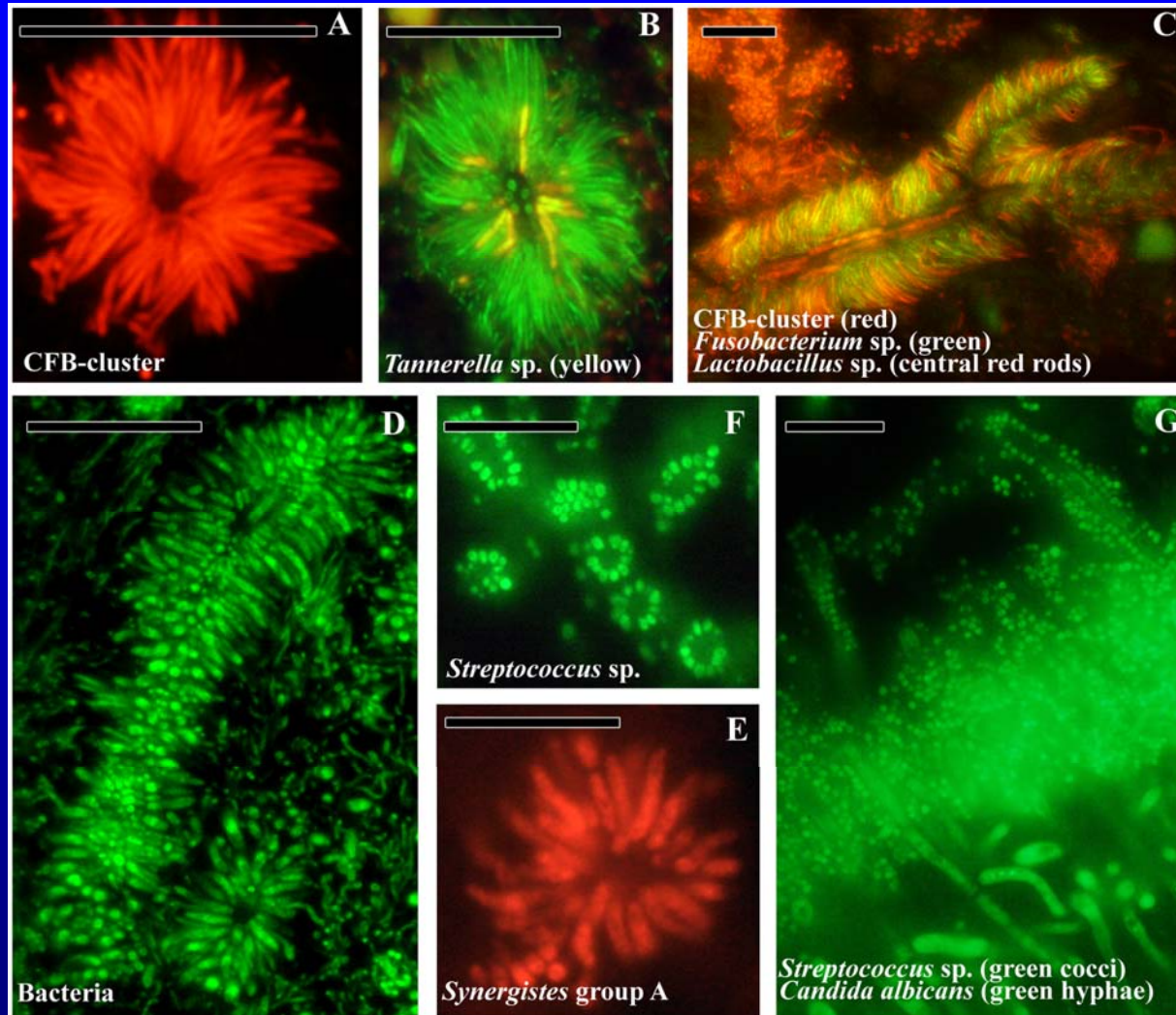


# Oral Microflora

- More than 700 species identified
- Composition changes with time and location
- Normal flora likely serves as a barrier to colonization by pathogens

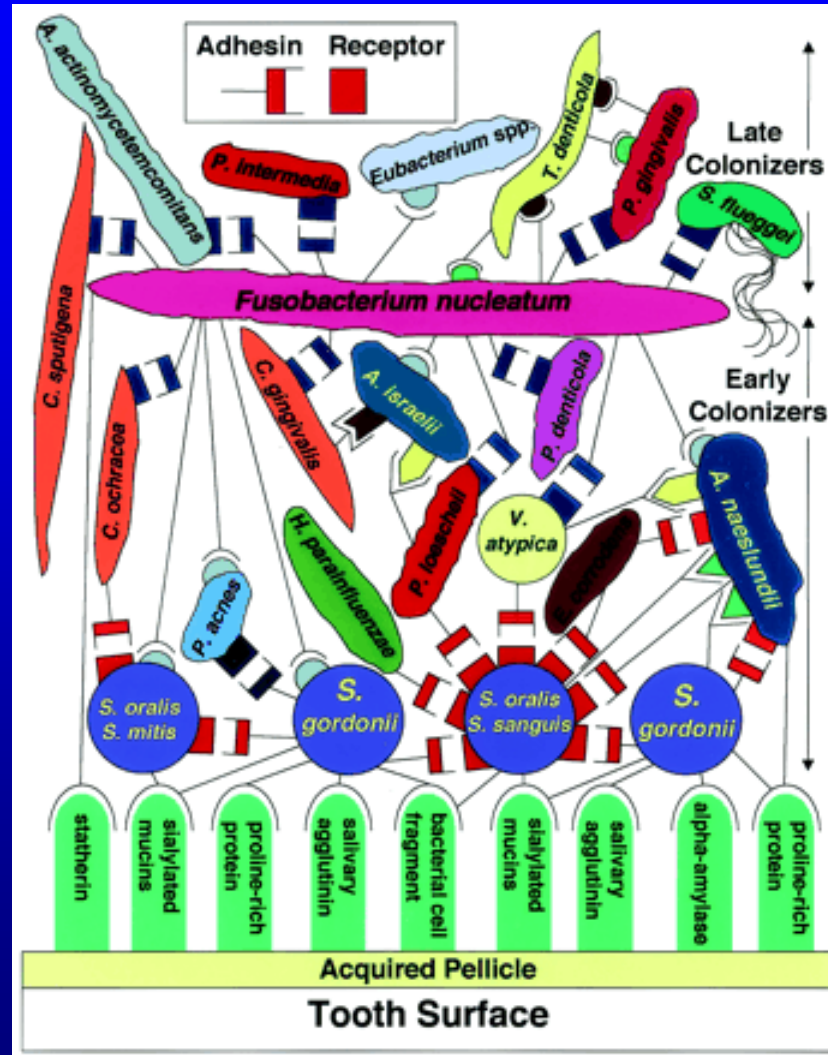


# Oral Microflora



Zijnge, V., M. B. M. van Leeuwen, J. E. Degener, F. Abbas, T. Thurnheer, R. Gmür, and H. J. M. Harmsen. 2010. Oral biofilm architecture on natural teeth. PLoS ONE 5:e9321.

# Oral Microflora



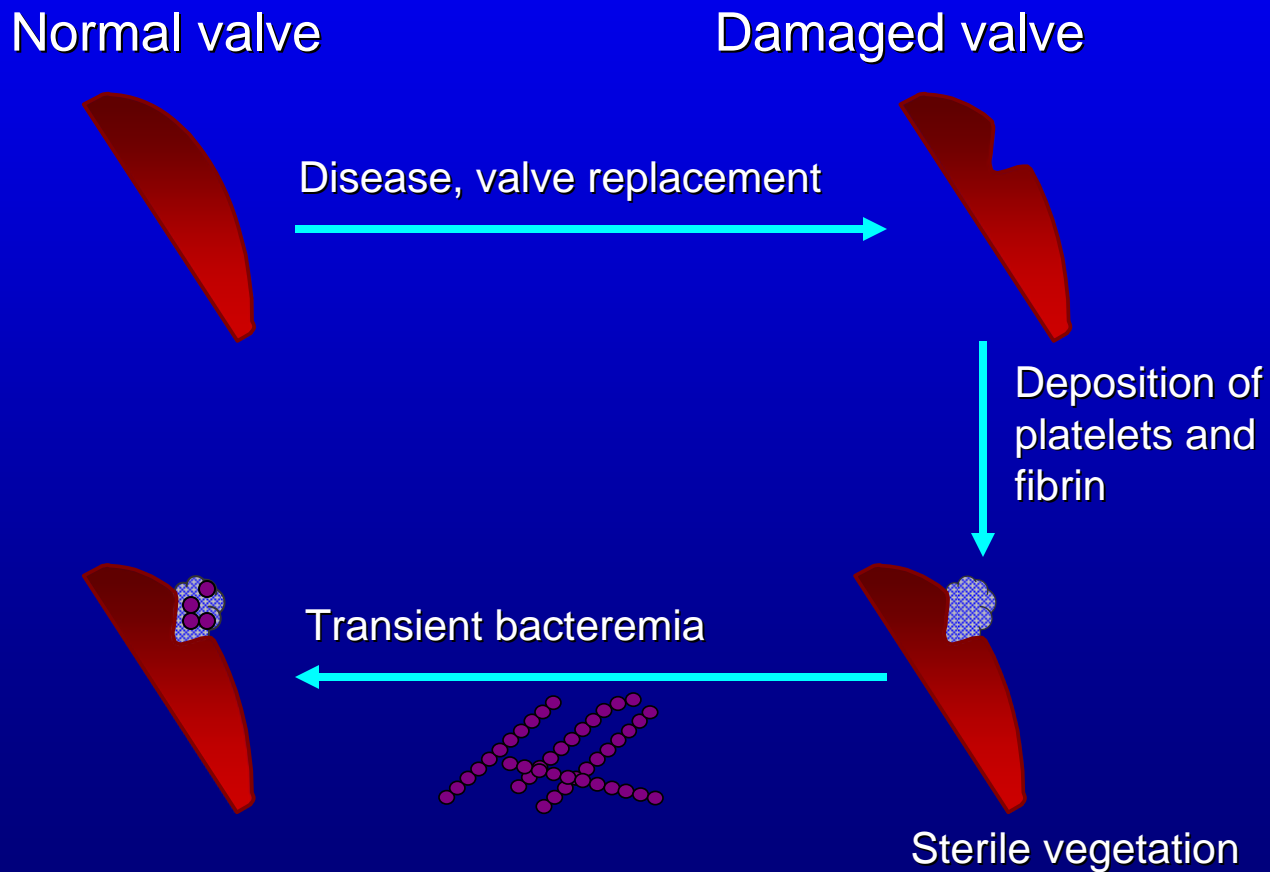
Kolenbrander, P. E., R. N. Andersen, D. S. Blehert, P. G. Eglund, J. S. Foster, and R. J. Palmer, Jr. 2002. Communication among oral bacteria. Microbiol Mol Biol Rev 66:486-505.

# Early SOD/SON Collaboration

- Frank Macrina:  
*Streptococcus mutans*  
and dental caries
- Cindy Munro:  
*Streptococcus mutans*  
and infective  
endocarditis?

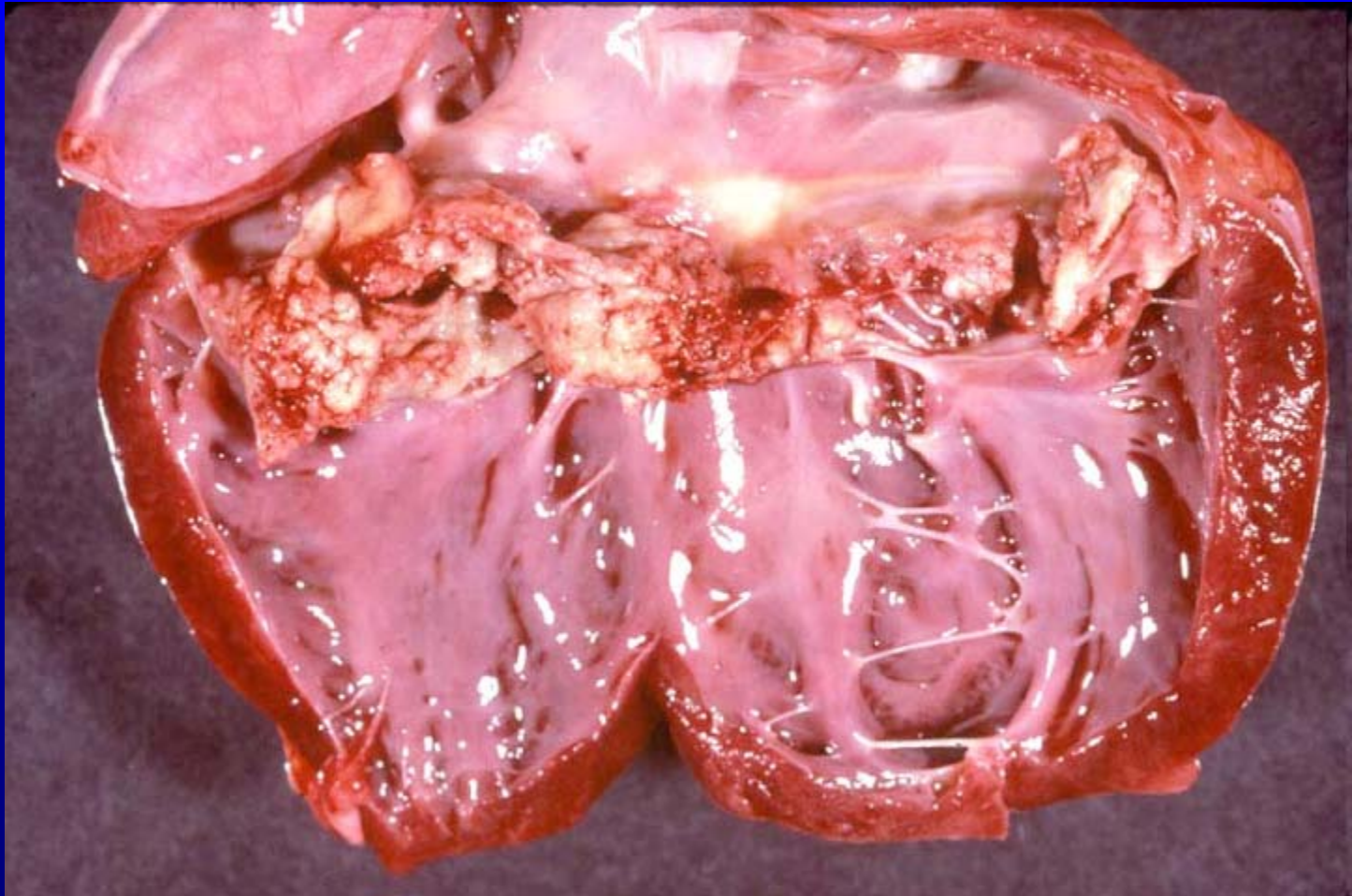


# Infective Endocarditis Pathogenesis

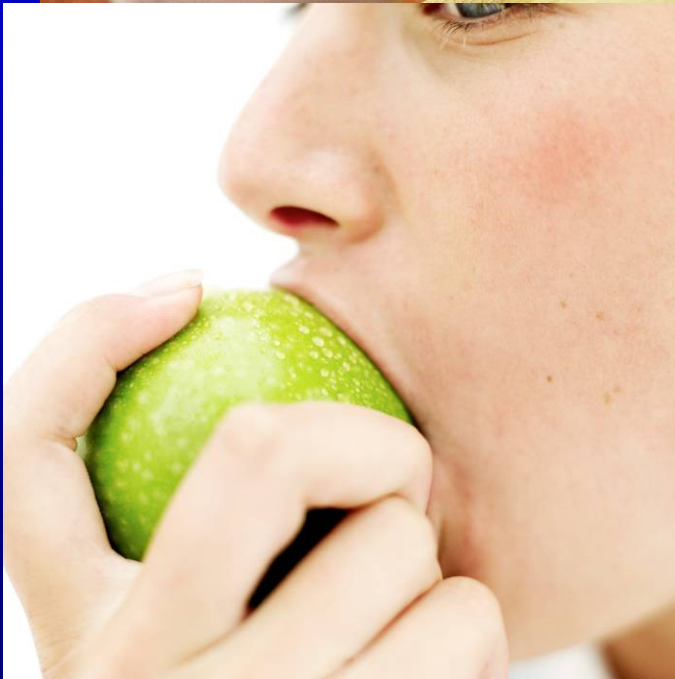
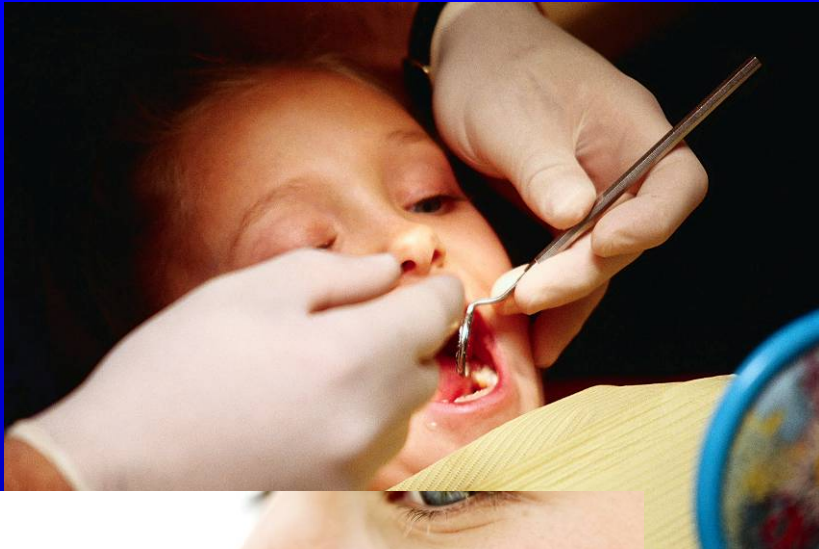




# Infective Endocarditis Pathogenesis



# Infective Endocarditis Prevention



# Munro and Macrina

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- Wells, V. D., [C. L. Munro](#), M. C. Sulavik, D. B. Clewell, and [F. L. Macrina](#). 1993. Infectivity of a glucan synthesis-defective mutant of *Streptococcus gordonii* (Challis) in a rat endocarditis model. *FEMS Microbiol Lett* 112:301-5.
- Burnette-Curley, D., V. Wells, H. Viscount, [C. L. Munro](#), J. C. Fenno, P. Fives-Taylor, and [F. L. Macrina](#). 1995. FimA, a major virulence factor associated with *Streptococcus parasanguis* endocarditis. *Infect. Immun.* 63:4669-74.
- Viscount, H. B., [C. L. Munro](#), D. Burnette-Curley, D. L. Peterson, and [F. L. Macrina](#). 1997. Immunization with FimA protects against *Streptococcus parasanguis* endocarditis in rats. *Infect Immun* 65:994-1002.
- Kitten, T., [C. L. Munro](#), S. M. Michalek, and [F. L. Macrina](#). 2000. Genetic characterization of a *Streptococcus mutans* Lral family operon and role in virulence. *Infect. Immun.* 68:4441-4451.
- Kitten, T., [C. L. Munro](#), A. Wang, and [F. L. Macrina](#). 2002. Vaccination with FimA from *Streptococcus parasanguis* protects rats from endocarditis caused by other viridans streptococci. *Infect. Immun.* 70:422-425.

# *Streptococcus sanguinis* genome sequence

SCIENTIFIC BLOGGING  
SCIENCE 2.0

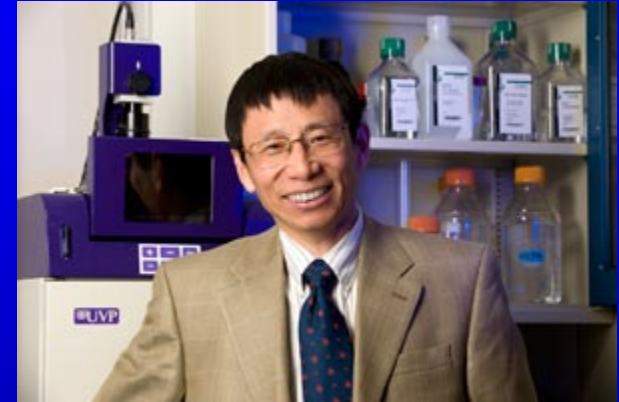
## Scientists Decode Genome Of Oral Pathogen

By News Staff | April 5th 2007 02:00 AM | [Print](#) | [E-mail](#) | [Track Comments](#)

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Virginia Commonwealth University researchers have decoded the genome of a bacteria normally present in the healthy human mouth that can cause a deadly heart infection if it enters the bloodstream.

The finding enables scientists to better understand the organism, *Streptococcus sanguinis*, and develop new strategies for treatment and infection prevention.

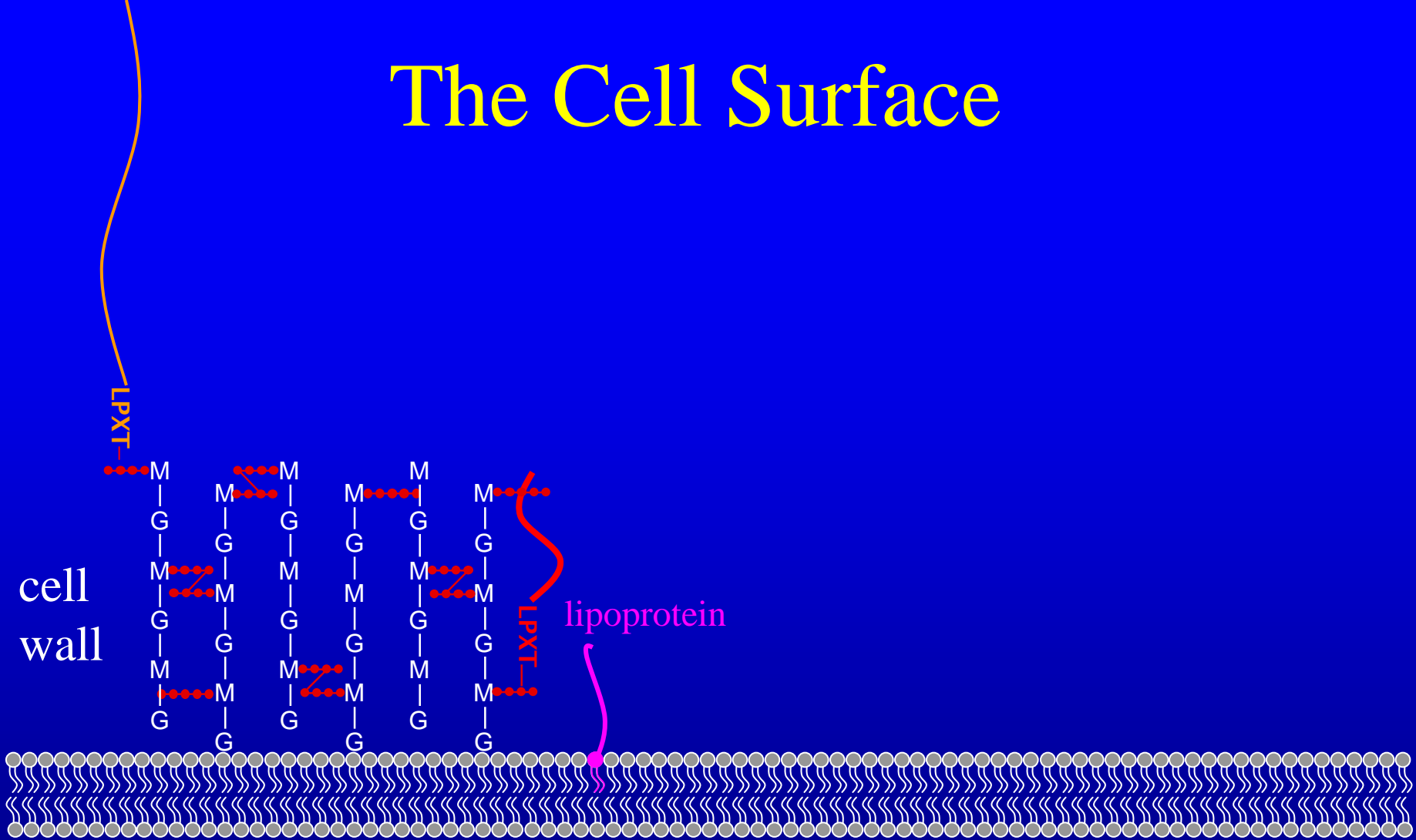


- 2.388 Mb
- ~2300 genes

Ping Xu, Ph.D.

Xu, P., J. M. Alves, T. Kitten, A. Brown, Z. Chen, L. S. Ozaki, P. Manque, X. Ge, M. G. Serrano, D. Puiu, S. Hendricks, Y. Wang, M. D. Chaplin, D. Akan, S. Paik, D. L. Peterson, F. L. Macrina, and G. A. Buck. 2007. Genome of the opportunistic pathogen *Streptococcus sanguinis*. *J Bacteriol* 189:3166-3175.

# The Cell Surface



# Lipoprotein candidates

- 53 lipoproteins genes
- Made 53 mutants
- The lipoprotein SsaB was found to be essential for virulence

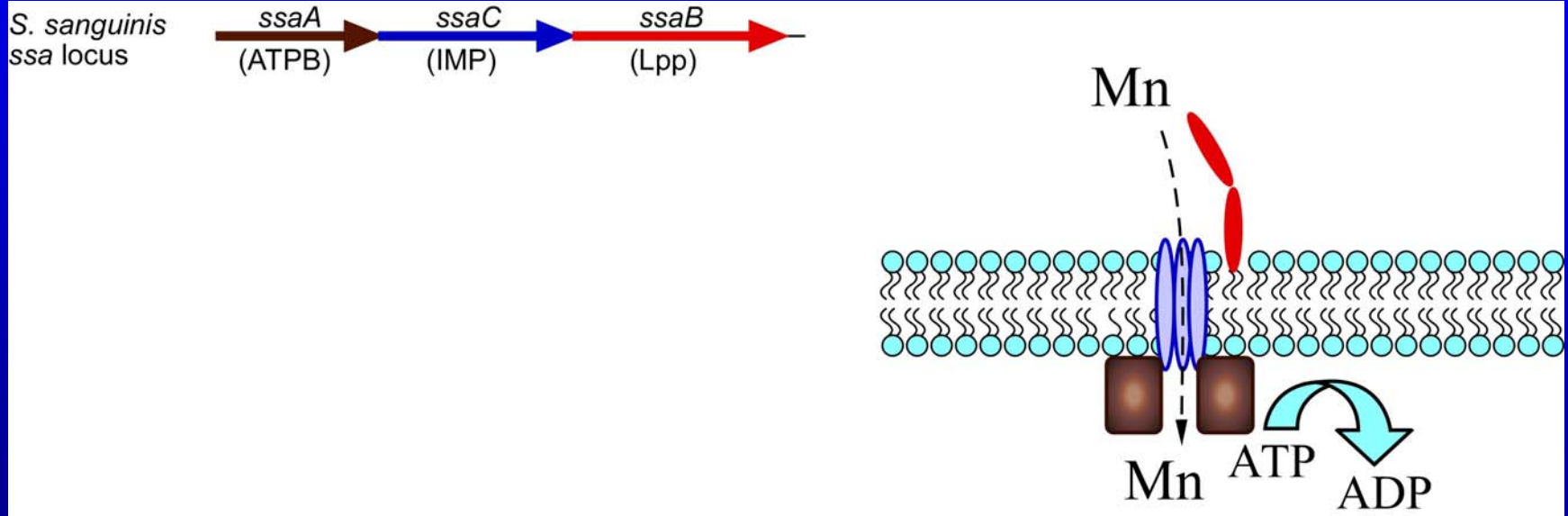
# SsaB

- S. sanguis adhesin B

**Ganeshkumar, N., M. Song, and B. C. McBride.** 1988. Cloning of a *Streptococcus sanguis* adhesin which mediates binding to saliva-coated hydroxyapatite. *Infect Immun* **56**:1150-1157.

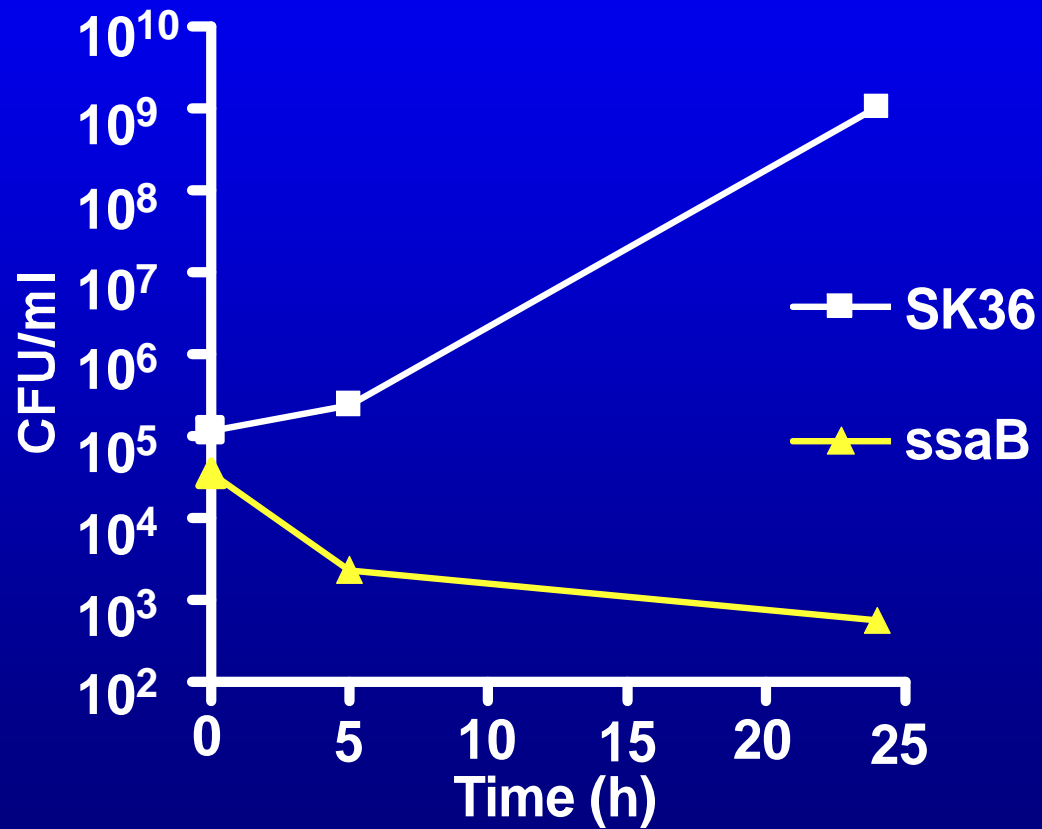
# SsaB

- S. sanguis adhesin B

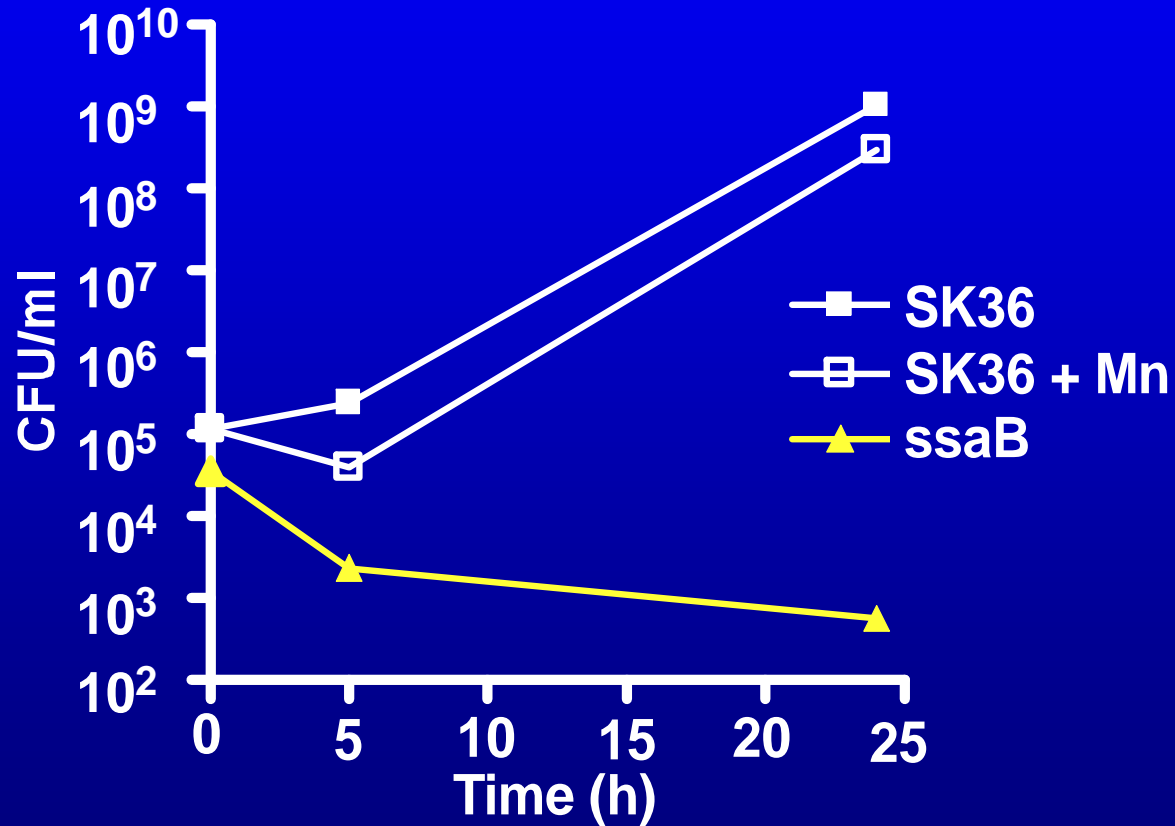




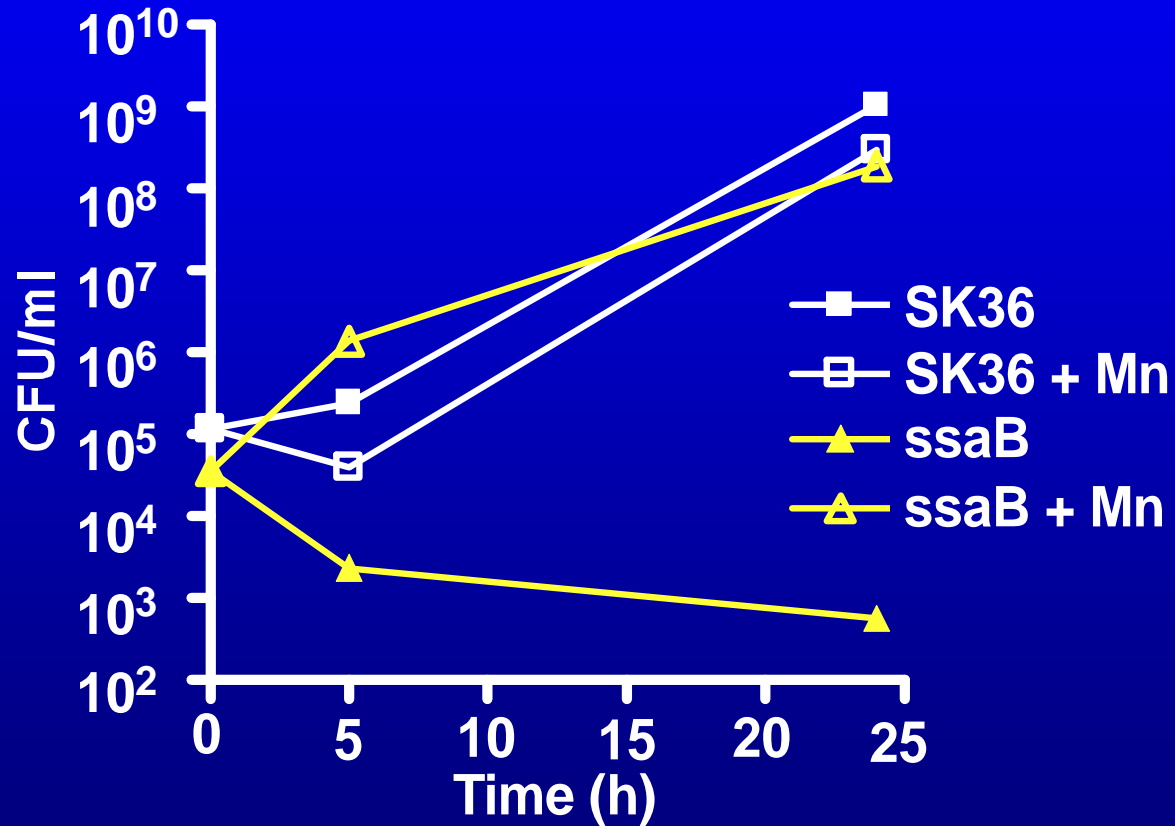
## Growth in serum $\pm$ 2 $\mu$ M Mn



## Growth in serum $\pm$ 2 $\mu$ M Mn



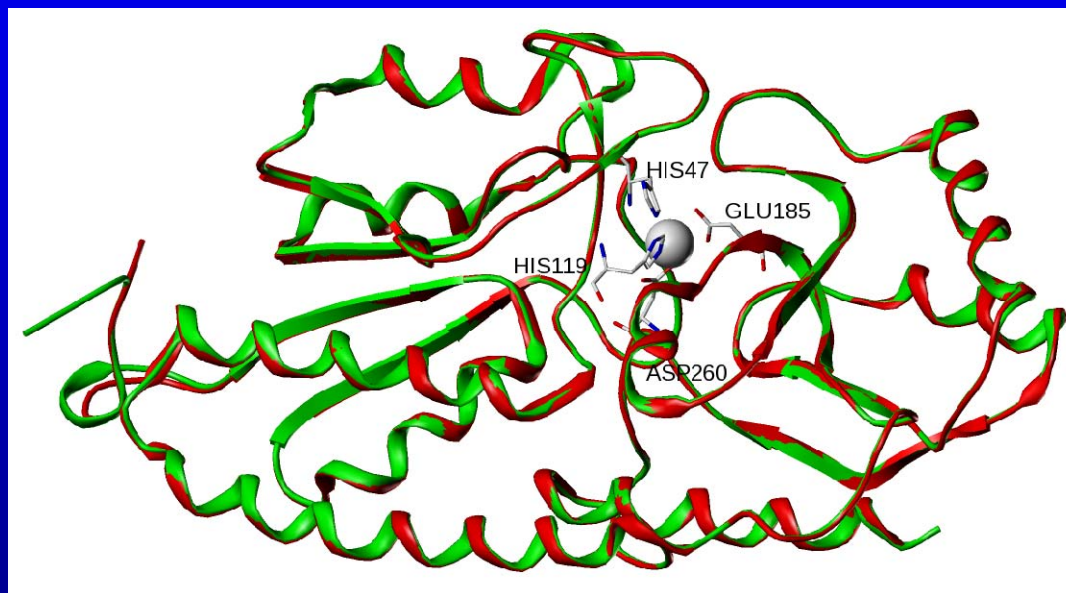
## Growth in serum $\pm$ 2 $\mu$ M Mn



# Inhibition of Mn uptake?

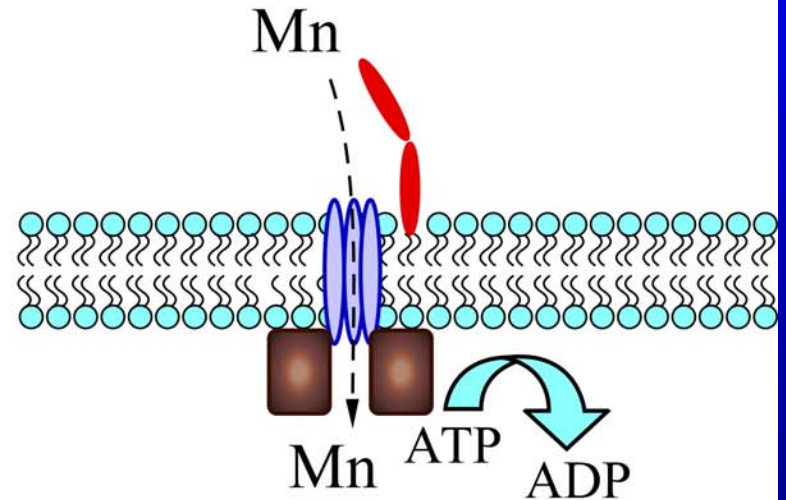
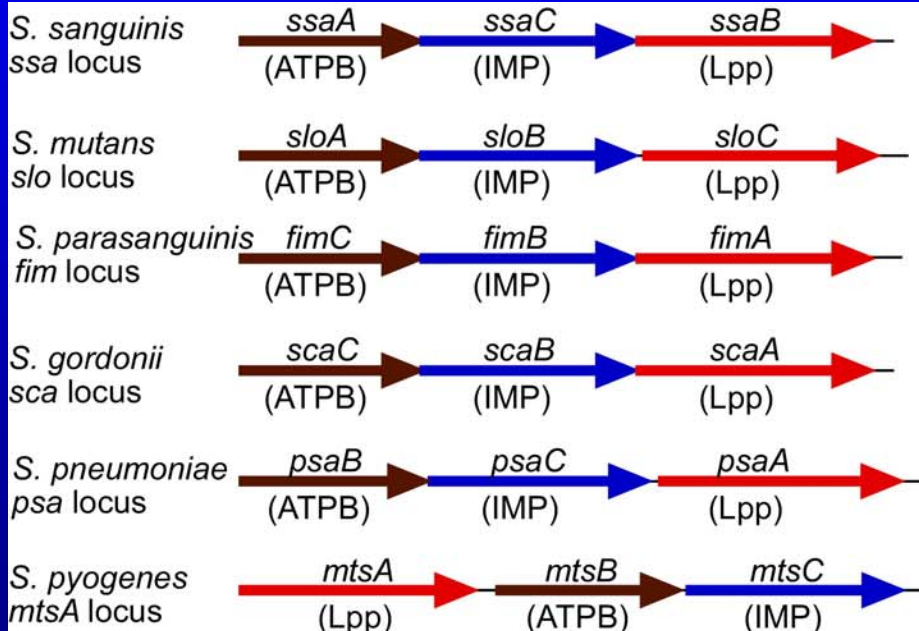


Glen E. Kellogg , Ph.D.  
Associate Professor  
*Department of  
Medicinal Chemistry*

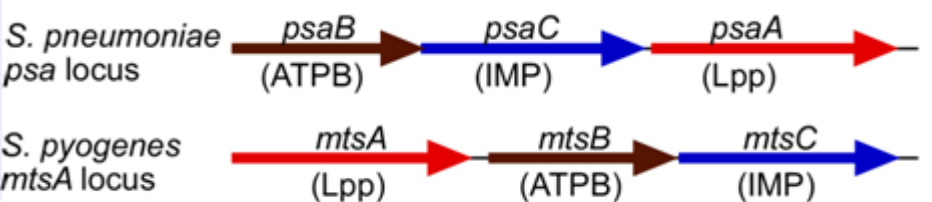


	Saliva	Serum
Mn conc.	36 $\mu\text{M}$	20 nM

# SsaB Family



# Other Diseases



## KILLER BUG

**EXCLUSIVE**

**ATE MY FACE**

*(Note: The text in the newspaper-style layout is small and partially illegible, but includes the word 'EXCLUSIVE' and a headline 'KILLER BUG'.)*

# Munro and Kitten

- Paik, S., A. Brown, [C. L. Munro](#), C. N. Cornelissen, and [T. Kitten](#). 2003. The *sloABCR* operon of *Streptococcus mutans* encodes an Mn and Fe transport system required for endocarditis virulence and its Mn-dependent repressor. *J. Bacteriol.* 185:5967-5975.
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- [Kitten, T.](#), [C. L. Munro](#), N. Q. Zollar, S. P. Lee, and R. D. Patel. 2012. Oral streptococcal bacteremia in hospitalized patients: taxonomic identification and clinical characterization. *J Clin Microbiol* 50:1039-1042.

# Other Collaborations

- “Low-tech” microbiology



# Equipment and Resources



Anoxomat anaerobic system

37°C incubator

Anaerobic jars

Temperature-controlled microplate reader

Biosafety cabinet



Thermal cycler



# Other Collaborations

- “Low-tech” microbiology
- Asking neglected questions or old questions in new ways

# Other Collaborations

Oral Care and Bacteremia Risk  
in Mechanically Ventilated Adults



**Deborah J Jones, PhD, MS, RN**



Healthcare Acquired Infection Risk and Toothbrush  
Contamination in the ICU

**Michelle Frazelle, PhD, RN, CCRN**

- Bacterial species identification
- Epidemiological molecular strain typing

# Other Collaborations

- “Low-tech” microbiology
- Asking neglected questions or old questions in new ways
- Asking questions that couldn’t be asked previously

# Other Collaborations

- Example:
  - Are particular communities of oral bacteria associated with health or a particular disease?
    - Approach: Metagenomics
    - Method: “Next-generation” deep sequencing

# Metagenomics



	HiSeq 2000
Output (2 × 100 bp)	600 Gb
Run Time	~11 days
Cluster Generation	cBot
Paired-end Reads	6 Billion
Single Reads	3 Billion
Maximum Read Length**	2 × 100 bp



GS FLX+ System Performance	
Read Length	Up to 1,000 bp
Mode Read Length	700 bp
Throughput Profile	85% of total bases from reads >500 bp 45% of total bases from reads >700 bp
Typical Throughput	700 Mb
Reads per Run	1,000,000
Consensus Accuracy*	99.997%
Run Time	23 hours

Also Ping Xu, Ph.D., Janina Lewis, Ph.D.

# Other Collaborations?

- Alison Montpetit, R.N., Ph.D.
  - Does the oral microflora contribute measurably to the composition of exhaled breath condensate?
  - Could this be useful for diagnostic purposes?

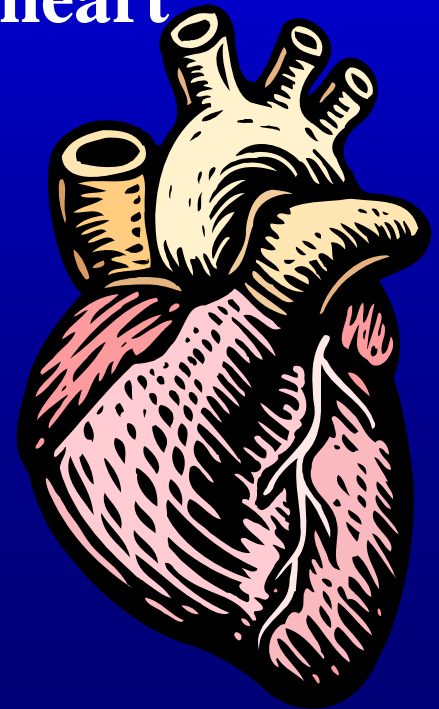
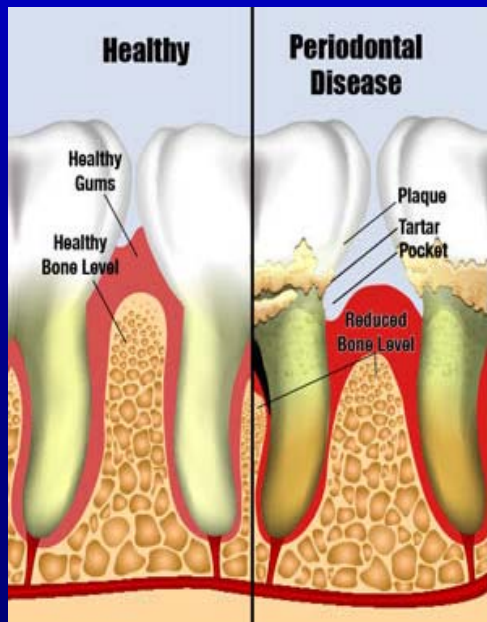


# Collaborations Involving Other SOD Researchers Working with Oral Microflora?



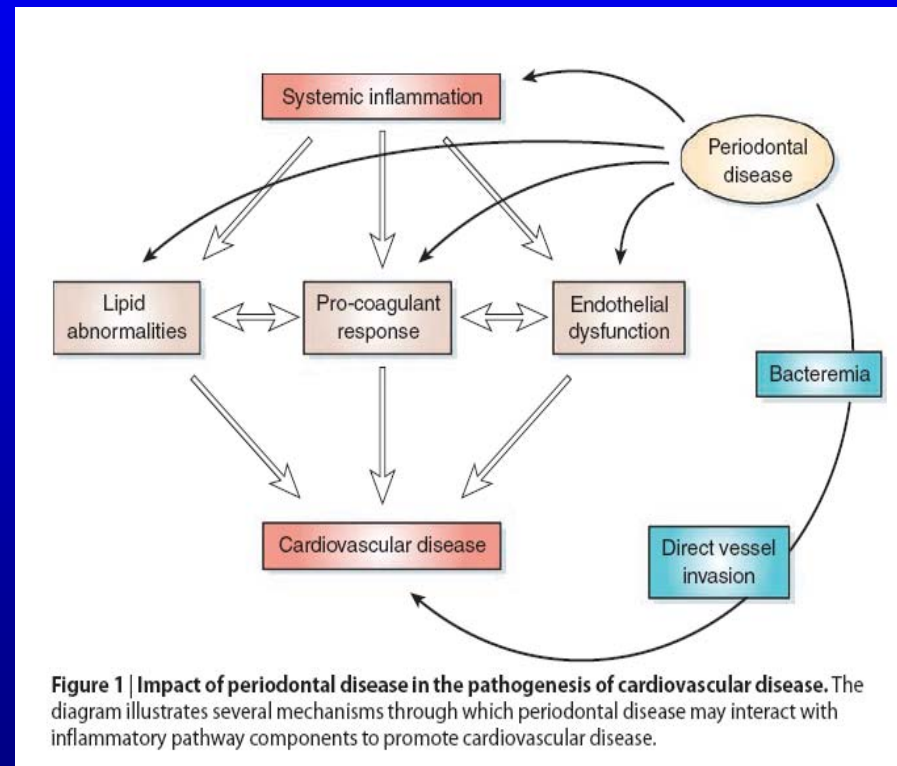
# Oral Bacteria in Relation to Extra-oral Diseases

- **Infective endocarditis**
- **Periodontal disease as contributing to atherosclerosis and coronary heart disease**



# Periodontal disease

- Direct infection or action at a distance
- Associated with
  - Premature birth or low birth weight
  - Diabetes
  - Others?



Madore, F. 2009. Periodontal disease: a modifiable risk factor for cardiovascular disease in ESRD patients? *Kidney Int* **75**:672-674.

# SOD Faculty Working on Periodontal Disease

Harvey Schenkein, D.D.S., Ph.D.



Esra Sahingur, D.D.S., Ph.D.



Janina Lewis, Ph.D.



# What we can do for you

- Provide expertise and equipment for pilot studies involving microbiology
  - “Yes, we can do that!”
- Bring you our ideas for the “next big thing” and be open to yours

# What you can do for us

- Bring us your ideas and problems
- Include the SOD in research seminar notices?
- Keep your door open for us (as is already the case)



*“These [interdisciplinary] partnerships enrich our research and provide wonderful opportunities for the students working with us on these studies.” [Read more](#)*

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